

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 461  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020**

**DIGITAL COMMUNICATION IN RURAL INDIA**

**461. SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of rural areas that are deprived of digital communication, State-wise; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to enhance digital literacy in the rural areas?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS,  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)**

(a) As per the data collected from the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and Department of Telecommunications (DoT) field units in 2019, it is estimated that there are 27,721 inhabited villages (as per census 2011 data) in the country, which are not covered by mobile services. The details are given at **Annexure**.

(b) Government has launched Digital India Programme to enhance digital literacy in rural areas under which following steps are taken by the Government:

- i. To realize the objective of attaining digital literacy, the Government has launched two schemes, namely 'National Digital Literacy Mission' and 'Digital Saksharta Abhiyan'. The major aim of the schemes was to cover one person from every eligible family to be made digitally literate so as to enable them to use IT and related applications and participate effectively in the democratic process and enhance their livelihood. Both these schemes were implemented concurrently across the country under which a total of 53.67 lakh beneficiaries were trained and duly certified.
- ii. The Government of India has approved a scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household). Under the Scheme, so far, a total of 3.31 crore individuals have been enrolled, out of which training has been imparted to 2.67 crore individuals and 1.97 crore individuals have been duly certified.

Annexure referred to in Part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 461 for answer on 05.02.2020

**State/ UT wise list of villages regarding coverage of mobile services**

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of inhabited villages as per census 2011	No. of inhabited villages covered with mobile services	No. of inhabited villages without mobile services
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	396	239	157
2.	Andhra Pradesh	16158	14063	2095
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5258	3454	1804
4.	Assam	25372	24162	1210
5.	Bihar	39073	38807	266
6.	Chandigarh	5	5	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	19567	17317	2250
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	65	65	0
9.	Daman & Diu	19	19	0
10.	NCT of Delhi	103	103	0
11.	Goa	320	297	23
12.	Gujarat	17843	17152	691
13.	Haryana	6642	6641	1
14.	Himachal Pradesh	17882	17716	166
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	6101	5963	138
16.	Jharkhand	29492	28239	1253
17.	Karnataka	27397	26834	563
18.	Kerala	1017	1017	0
19.	Ladakh	236	174	62
20.	Lakshadweep	6	5	1
21.	Madhya Pradesh	51929	48959	2970
22.	Maharashtra	40959	37970	2989
23.	Manipur	2515	1727	788
24.	Meghalaya	6459	4861	1598
25.	Mizoram	704	434	270
26.	Nagaland	1400	1131	269
27.	Odisha	47677	41128	6549
28.	Punjab	12168	12168	0
29.	Puducherry	90	90	0
30.	Rajasthan	43264	42494	770
31.	Sikkim	425	414	11
32.	Tamil Nadu	15049	15021	28
33.	Telangana	10128	10018	110
34.	Tripura	863	855	8
35.	Uttarakhand	15745	15540	205
36.	Uttar Pradesh	97813	97394	419
37.	West Bengal	37478	37421	57
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>597618</b>	<b>569897</b>	<b>27721</b>

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